

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claim 1.

Please add the following claims 60 - 66:

*Synd. 01* > --60. In an immunoassay to detect the presence of antibodies to a human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in a human sample comprising contacting the sample with an immunogenic polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence from the envelope (env) domain of HIV and determining whether antibodies are bound to the immunogenic polypeptide, the improvement comprising employing as the immunogenic polypeptide a synthetic polypeptide.--

--61. A method of detecting antibodies to a human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in a human sample comprising:

- a) providing a solid support having bound thereto a synthetic polypeptide comprising at least an immunogenic portion of the envelope (env) domain of HIV;
- b) contacting the solid support with the human sample to provide a sample-contacted support;
- c) washing the sample-contacted support to provide a washed support; and
- d) determining whether human antibodies are bound to the washed support.--

--62. The method of claim 60 wherein the human sample comprises serum.--

--63. The method of claim 61 wherein the human sample comprises serum--

--64. The method of claim 61 wherein step (d) comprises contacting the washed support with labeled antibodies to human Ig and the specific binding of the labeled antibodies to the washed support is measured.--

--65. The method of claim 64 wherein the labeled antibodies bound to the washed support are measured by an enzyme label.--

--66. An article of manufacture adapted for use in an immunoassay for antibodies to an human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) comprising a solid support having bound thereto a synthetic polypeptide comprising at least an immunogenic portion of the envelope (env) domain of HIV.--